GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2071
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2016
Fossil Fuel Reserves
Chandrakasi Shri M.

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present level of fossil fuel reserves in the country and expected period/year by which the same will be exhausted;

(b) the details of new alternate energy sources which have been identified for exploration and use in future especially after exhausting fossil fuel reserves; and

(c) the details of R&D works undertaken in the country and the world over to meet future energy needs after exhausting fossil fuels?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER,
COAL AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) : As per the information available with Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the present level of coal reserves are 301.5 billion tonnes and may last for around 100 years. There are 47 trillion cubic ft. of natural gas reserves and 800 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) of oil reserves. These reserves are expected to last for 30-40 years. Further, lignite reserves of 44,114.24 Million Tonnes (MT) are available in the country. However, based on the present techno commercial viability of lignite mining, the mineable reserve in the country is estimated at 4326 MT. The lignite reserves is expected to last for around 85 years.

(b) : Renewable Energy Sources (RES) like Solar, Wind (including off-shore wind), Bio-mass, Tidal, Geo-Thermal & small hydro etc. have been identified for development, which would replace fossil fuels.

(c) : The details of R&D Projects on RES, undertaken under the R&D Schemes of the Ministry of Power, are given in the Annex.

The world over, R&D efforts are directed towards improving RES and allied energy storage and addressing issues related to grid integration of RES.

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